

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 27 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7, 10, 16, 19 and 25 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

The undersigned attorney would like to thank Examiner Waks for the courtesies extended to him during the personal interview on December 3, 2002. At the interview, above Claim 1 was discussed. The above Claim 1 further defines the reinforcement member.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7, 16 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, alleging them to be indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claims 7, 16 and 25 to further define the one end. Applicant now believes the claims to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

The Examiner has rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Brosse French reference. Also, the Examiner has rejected Claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 over the Brosse reference. Further the Examiner rejects Claims 10 through 12, 17 through 21 and 26 and 27 as being unpatentable over Brennan in view of Brosse.

Independent Claims 1, 10 and 19 have been amended to further define the reinforcement member enhancing strength of the anchor to resist deformation during

molding. The art cited by the Examiner, specifically Brosse, fails to disclose or suggest such a feature. The Brosse reference neither discloses nor suggests a reinforcement member enhancing the strength of the anchor to resist deformation during molding. Brosse illustrates the part 15B, which is separate from the yoke, providing a cylindrical inner surface that prolongs the inner surface of the permanent magnet on the side where the induction reaction creates a field in the same direction as the induction field and provides reinforcement of the total flux which increases the intensity of the current induced. This is unlike Applicant's invention.

Accordingly, Applicant believes independent Claims 1, 10 and 19 to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant believes Claims 2 through 9, 11 through 18 and 20 through 27, which depend from these independent claims, to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a marked up version of each amended claim in which underlines indicates insertions and brackets indicate deletions.

1. (Amended) A flux ring, comprising:

an annular housing;

at least one molded magnet received on said housing; and

an anchor on said housing retaining said at least one magnet on said annular housing, said anchor unitarily formed with said housing and including a bend and a reinforcing member positioned at said bend, said reinforcing member enhancing strength of said anchor to resist deformation during molding.

7. (Amended) The flux ring according to Claim 6, wherein said anchor has only one end [is] connected to said housing.

10. (Amended) A motor comprising:

a stator assembly, said stator assembly including a flux ring comprising:

an annular housing;

at least one molded magnet received on said housing;

an anchor on said housing retaining said at least one magnet on said annular housing, said anchor unitarily formed with said housing and including a bend, a

reinforcement member positioned at said bend, said reinforcing member enhancing strength of said anchor to resist deformation during molding;

an armature rotatable within said stator assembly;

a commutator rotatable with said armature and connected to said armature via a shaft; and

brush assemblies associated with said commutator.

16. (Amended) The motor according to Claim 15, wherein said anchor has only one end [is] connected to said housing.

19. (Amended) A power tool comprising:

a housing;

a motor in said housing, said motor comprising:

a stator assembly, said stator assembly including a flux ring comprising:

an annular housing;

at least one molded magnet received on said housing;

an anchor on said housing retaining said at least one magnet on said annular housing, said anchor unitarily formed with said housing and including a bend, reinforcement member at said bend, said reinforcing member enhancing strength of said anchor to resist deformation during molding;

an armature rotatable within said stator assembly;

a commutator rotatable with said armature and connected to said armature via a shaft;

brush assemblies associated with said commutator;
a power supply;
an output member coupled with said motor shaft; and
an actuator member electrically coupled between said motor and said
power source for energizing and de-energizing said motor which, in turn, rotates said